

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) An asset management system for managing an essence,  
comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring video and audio data used to create the essence;

creating means for creating said essence and for generating metadata for

explaining said essence when creating said essence;

archiving means for archiving said essence and the metadata correlatively with  
each other;

controlling means for controlling an operation performed on the archived essence  
based on said metadata to realize asset management for said essence,

wherein the archiving means issues and archives a tag pointing the  
archiving means that archives the metadata that explains the essence; and

retrieving means for retrieving the metadata according to the tag.

2. (Previously Presented) An asset management system for managing an essence,  
comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring video and audio data used to generate the essence;

generating means for generating the information for explaining said essence;

recording means for recording and/or reproducing said essence and the  
information correlatively with each other;

managing means for managing and/or controlling a recording and/or reproducing  
operation of said essence based on said information to affect asset management for said essence,